

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11 SAB-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 /088 W

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R 081250Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6120

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINT IS US UN RO

SUBJECT: GOR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PACOSTE'S VISIT TO
ISRAEL

REF: TEL AVIV 8170 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO ISRAELI AMBASSADOR COHEN, MAIN MESSAGE
BROUGHT BY PACOSTE ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU DURING
HIS LATE DECEMBER VISIT WAS ROMANIAN DESIRE TO EXPAND ITS
RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, PARTICULARLY IN THE CULTURAL AND
TRADE FIELDS. PACOSTE ALSO CONVEYED INVITATION FROM PRIME
MINISTER MANESCU TO PRIME MINISTER RABIN TO VISIT ROMANIA IN THE
NEAR FUTURE AND SINCE PACOSTE'S RETURN AMBASSADOR COHEN HAS
BEEN QUERIED EVERY FEW DAYS AS TO HOW SOON PLANS COULD BE
FIRMED UP FOR A RABIN VISIT. IN COHEN'S JUDGMENT THE PUSH
FOR THE INVITATION IS DESIGNED IN GOOD PART TO DEMONSTRATE TO
THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE ARABS THAT ROMANIA REMAINS ON
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GOOD TERMS WITH BOTH SIDES IN MIDDLE EASTERN CONFLICT.

2. ON SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER, COHEN HAD LITTLE TO ADD TO THAT CONTAINED IN REFTEL. PACOSTE HAD NO LUCK TRYING TO PERSUADE THE ISRAELIS TO GIVE UP THEIR BOYCOTT OF THE JANUARY SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION NOR TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY LESS CRITICAL OF ROMANIAN WILLINGNESS TO TAKE PART IN THE COMMITTEE OF 20. ON BALANCE, COHEN THOUGHT THE VISIT WAS USEFUL IF ONLY TO GIVE PACOSTE, WHO IS THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR ROMANIA'S RELATIONS WITH THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, A FIRSTHAND SENSE OF ISRAEL AND ISRAELI THINKING. HE DESCRIBED PACOSTE

AS IMPRESSED BY WHAT HE SAW INCLUDING THAT PART OF THE MOLOTOV-RIBBENTROP AGREEMENT (PART OF AN EXHIBIT ON THE WORLD WAR II HOLOCAUST) STATING SOVIET INTEREST IN BESSARABIA.

3. ON A RELATED MATTER, COHEN MENTIONED THAT ALTHOUGH THE NEW ROMANIAN AIRLINE LINEA AERIANA ROMANA HAD OSTENSIBLY BEEN ESTABLISHED TO TRANSPORT JEWISH EMIGRANTS TO TEL AVIV AND THEREBY EASE ARAB BOYCOTT PRESSURE ON THE REGULAR ROMANIAN CARRIER TAROM, LAR HAD NOT YET MADE A SINGLE FLIGHT TO ISRAEL AND TAROM CONTINUED TO CARRY JEWISH EMIGRANTS. A FEW DAYS EARLIER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PATAN TOLD US THAT ARAB BOYCOTT CONTINUED TO CREATE SOME DIFFICULTIES FOR ROMANIA, PRIMARILY BECAUSE ROMANIANS NEVER KNEW WHEN IT WAS GOING TO BE APPLIED. BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, PATAN CITED LIBYAN WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE TO ACCEPT TAROM FLIGHTS CARRYING MEAT AND A SUDDEN IRAQI REVERSAL OF THE BAN ON IMPORTS OF ROMANIAN CHEMICAL PRODUCTS WHICH IRAQIS UNEXPECTEDLY NEEDED. IN GENERAL THOUGH, SAID PATAN, THE ARABS ARE BEING VERY "ARABESQUE" AND ONE DOESN'T KNOW FROM DAY TO DAY WHETHER THE BOYCOTT "RECOMMENDATIONS" ARE GOING TO BE APPLIED OR NOT.
BARNES

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